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DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of Bureau, in Charge

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Oliver I. Snapp and H. S. Swingle, of the peach insect laboratory at Fort Valley, Ga., attended meetings of the Cotton States Branch of the American Association of Economic Entomologists in Atlanta, February 2 to 4. Mr. Snapp was elected secretary of the branch for the coming year.

Dr. L. B. Soliman, of the Plant Protection Section, Ministry of Agriculture, Cairo, Egypt, recently spent a part of a day with Dr. P. W. Mason, discussing aphid problems. Dr. Soliman will make a careful study of the aphid fauna of Egypt.

COTTON INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

INVESTIGATIONS OF INSECTS AFFECTING THE HEALTH OF MAN AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS

J. L. Webb, Associate Entomologist, Acting in Charge

Dr. J. W. Folsom, Dr. W. V. King, R. C. Gaines, and K. P. Ewing attended the meetings of the Cotton States Entomologists at Atlanta, Ga., on February 2 and 3. Dr. J. W. Folsom gave a talk on "The Cotton Flea Hopper Situation and Control Measures," and on "Progress in the Use of Airplanes for Insect Control."

B. R. Coad and Elmer Johnson have returned to Tallulah, La., from the Southwest, where they have been studying the Arizona weevil situation. Arizona weevil infestations, obviously in many cases of some years standing, have been found in practically every cotton-growing area of southeastern Arizona. Pink bollworms have been found in southeastern Arizona and in southwestern New Mexico.

R. W. Moreland, V. V. Williams, W. A. Stevenson, G. L. Smith, and G. L. Garrison, of the Arizona weevil force at Tucson, Ariz., have recently been transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board for a period of two months.

## STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

On February 17 W. D. Reed, of the Dried-Fruit Laboratory, Fresno, Calif., gave an address on the general subject of entomology, at the monthly meeting of the Students' Agricultural Club of the Fresno State College.

Some time ago a shipment of dried fruits from California to Stockholm arrived at its destination in a badly infested condition. The shippers received a translation of a report of its condition, made by Professor Tullgren, Chief of the Entomological Section of the Central Institution, Stockholm. In February the California Dried Fruit Association submitted this report to J. C. Hamlin, in charge of the Dried-Fruit Laboratory, for his criticism. The data accumulated at Fresno relating to the biology of dried-fruit insects enabled Mr. Hamlin to give needed and timely advice to those interested.

As an outgrowth of the conference held at the War Department January 7, for a consideration of possible investigations of moth-proofing solutions, including dyes, Messrs. Appel, dye chemist of the Bureau of Standards, Herrick, color chemist of the Bureau of Chemistry, and Back, entomologist, met in February to discuss the need of investigation of dyes and solutions in moth-proofing fabrics. As an outcome of this meeting the Bureau of Standards informed the War Department that the Bureau of Entomology is well prepared to conduct any experiments with moth-proofing solutions that the War Department considers desirable.

Dr. E. A. Back spent February 23 in Hartford, Conn., consulting with a large brush-manufacturing concern regarding its insect problems. Every firm which makes brushes and deals with bristles imported from China is confronted at times with serious problems of that kind.

A. O. Larson, of the bean weevil investigations, Alhambra, Calif., spent the month of February in Washington, summarizing notes and reviewing literature.

A conference was held in Dr. Quaintance's office on January 4, at which were present representatives of the Bureau of Entomology, Federal Horticultural Board, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Commerce, Emergency Fleet Corporation, Millers National Federation, Southwestern Millers Association, the ports of New Orleans and Galveston, and several railroads and marine insurance underwriters. The purpose of the conference was to devise plans to bring about a sanitary condition, with respect to the injury of flour by insects, of all agencies associated with the export of flour through the ports of New Orleans and Galveston. Thanks to the hearty cooperation of Federal agencies, the ships of the Emergency Fleet Corporation carrying flour from these ports were already being inspected and fumigated, and certificates of reasonable freedom from insects were being issued by the Federal Horticultural Board. The Bureau of Entomology offered a service of inspection and certification of flour mills exporting flour, but since no funds were available for such work the millers planned that sufficient funds should be provided by the insurance companies writing policies against loss by weevils, and that the underwriters should be reimbursed by higher insurance rates charged the millers.

At a meeting held in New York on January 6, the insurance interests voted not to meet the request of the millers. With no funds made available, and with subsequent disagreement arising among the exporting millers using the ports of New Orleans and Galveston, the Bureau of Entomology is relieved of the burden of issuing certificates stating that the mills receiving them are reasonably free from insect pests.

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### FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. F. C. Craighead returned February 23 from a trip to the Forest Insect Field Station at Palo Alto, Calif., where a conference was held February 9 to 16 on the control of forest insects in the West.

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### TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Entomologist, in Charge

Mr. and Mrs. E. Mortensen, connected with investigations of the prickly pear in Australia, spent several days of February in the Division of Insects interviewing various specialists about insects injurious to cacti. They brought for identification a number of specimens collected or reared in Mexico. L. F. Hitchcock, of the same investigations, also recently visited the Division of Insects and brought with him specimens he had collected in the West Indies.

Dr. Stanislaw Minkiewicz, of the Institute of Agricultural Research, Pulawy, Poland, is spending several weeks in the Division of Insects, looking over various groups of insects that are injurious to Polish crops. He is also interested in methods of handling collections and keeping track of literature.

Dr. E. A. Schwarz has received several long letters from R. C. Shannon, giving an account of a collecting trip taken by Mr. Shannon and Dr. F. W. Edwards, of the British Museum, and their wives. They went into the southern part of the Andes, crossing into Chile and returning by rail to Buenos Aires. They report a very successful collecting trip, in the course of which they found many new insects.

Messrs. Jaynes and Gardner, of the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, who have just returned from Japan and China, visited the Division of Insects in the latter part of February.

A. O. Larsen, of Stored Product Insect Investigations, has been conferring with Dr. A. G. Böving on the taxonomic separation of the very similar mature larvae of the two bean beetles Mylabris obtectus Say and Mylabris quadrimaculatus Fab. As a result of the discussion a short paper on the subject is now under preparation by Dr. Böving.

## GIPSY MOTH AND BROWN-TAIL MOTH INVESTIGATIONS

A. F. Burgess, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

S. S. Crossman spent January 7 and 8 with Bureau officials in Washington, D. C., discussing problems connected with the investigations of the gipsy moth.

At meetings held in Boston in January by the Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association, A. F. Burgess spoke in regard to the present status of the gipsy and brown-tail moths.

On February 11, at Albany, N. Y., A. F. Burgess, S. S. Crossman, and H. L. Blaisdell attended a meeting called by H. L. McIntyre, of the New York State Conservation Commission, to consider plans for the coming season in the gipsy moth campaign.

R. T. Webber was in Washington during the week of February 7, where he attended to various details in arranging for his foreign investigations. He sailed on the S. S. George Washington on February 19 for Cherbourg, France. After consultation with entomologists and government officials in France and several other European countries he will proceed to Hungary, to spend a short time with C. F. W. Muesebeck and R. C. Brown, at the Gipsy Moth Laboratory in Budapest, arranging to obtain parasites in Hungary for shipment to Melrose Highlands, Mass. He will then investigate the gipsy moth conditions in Italy, northern France, and Spain, for the purpose of sending natural enemies of this insect to the United States.

On February 8 H. F. Barnes, research scholar of the Ministry of Agriculture, London, England, visited the Gipsy Moth Laboratory at Melrose Highlands, Mass.

On February 28 several members of the gipsy moth force attended the funeral services of the late R. I. Smith, of the Federal Horticultural Board, at Braintree, Mass.

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## TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL PLANT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. C. Baker, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

On February 10 E. A. McGregor appeared before a meeting of merchants and orange growers of Lindsay, Calif., and vicinity, and addressed them on the subject of the citrus thrips. The meeting was well attended and many questions were asked at its conclusion.

## JAPANESE BEETLE INVESTIGATIONS

Loren B. Smith, Entomologist, in Charge

Arthur Gibson, Dominion Entomologist of Canada, recently visited the Japanese Beetle Laboratory, at Riverton, N. J., where he spent two days in conference with members of the laboratory staff. Previous to his stop at Riverton, Dr. Gibson attended the meeting of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association at Atlantic City.

T. R. Gardner and H. A. Jaynes were in Washington February 15 to 19, where they conferred with Dr. A. L. Quaintance regarding the work of the Bureau in the Orient relative to parasites of the Japanese beetle. Mr. Gardner recently returned from Japan, where for three years he had carried on investigations relating to parasites of the Japanese beetle, and had shipped many parasites of that insect to the laboratory at Riverton. He expects to return to Japan in a few weeks to resume this work for another period of three years. Mr. Jaynes has also recently returned from foreign service, having spent the last three years in China, engaged in work on parasites of the Japanese beetle. On his trip back to this country he stopped for two weeks in England, where he examined type specimens of some of the parasitic wasps at the British Museum.

Dr. Henry Fox visited the Boyce-Thompson Institute, Yonkers, N. Y., in February to inspect equipment and to consult with specialists in regard to contemplated lines of investigation.

In February E. A. Richmond and F. W. Metzger visited the plant of the B. T. Bush Co., at Delawanna, N. J., spending a day in conference with Dr. E. C. Kunz and Dr. Martin Szamatolski regarding the source of supply and the manufacture of aromatic chemicals.

On February 16 E. R. Van Leeuwen addressed the Century Club of Philadelphia on "Control measures for the Japanese beetle."

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## TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

J. E. Graf left Washington on February 3 to attend a conference in connection with the sugar-beet leafhopper problem at Ogden, Utah, February 9 to 10. From here he proceeded to the Pacific Coast, where he conferred with State officials and officials in charge of Bureau laboratories. Mr. Graf expects to return to Washington in the early part of March via the South, where he will visit a few of the Gulf Coast laboratories.



# LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

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